

In the Claims:

Please amend Claims 57, 58, 63, 64, 72, 73, 81 and 82, all as shown below. Applicant reserves the right to prosecute any originally presented claims in a future or continuing application.

1-56. (Previously Canceled).

57. (Currently Amended) A system for maintaining security in a distributed computing environment, comprising:

a policy manager located on a server for creating a local security policy and for distributing the local security policy to a client wherein the local security policy includes a plurality of rules customized to the client, said plurality of rules including a set of grant rules that allow access to securable components and a set of deny rules that prevent access to said securable components; and

an application guard located at the client for managing access by individual transactions to securable components at a client level as specified by the local security policy, the securable components including at least one application;

wherein the policy manager receives a global security policy that includes a plurality of rules for regulating access to said securable components ~~within the system~~ and wherein the policy manager customizes the local security policy by selecting a subset of rules from the global security policy that is are applicable to the application guard and distributes the subset to the application guard; and

wherein the application guard receives an authorization request including a subject, an object and a privilege and evaluates said request by matching the subset of rules received from the policy manager to said subject, said object and said privilege in order to control access to said securable components.

58. (Currently Amended) The system of Claim 57 including wherein said securable components further include a function within the application as specified by the security policy.

59. (Withdrawn) The system of Claim 57 including a procedure within the application as specified by the security policy.

60. (Withdrawn) The system of Claim 57 including a data structure within the application as specified by the security policy.

61. (Withdrawn) The system of Claim 57 including a database object referenced by the application as specified by the security policy.

62. (Withdrawn) The system of Claim 57 including a file system object referenced by the application as specified by the security policy.

63. (Currently Amended) A method for maintaining security in a distributed computing environment, comprising:

receiving a global security policy that includes a plurality of rules for regulating access to securable components in the system, the securable components including at least one application;

creating a local security policy via a policy manager located on a server, the local security policy including a plurality of rules customized to a client wherein creating the local security policy includes customizing the local security policy by selecting a subset of rules from the global security policy that is applicable to an application guard located on the client;

distributing the local security policy to the client; and

receiving an authorization request by the application guard, the authorization request including a subject, an object and a privilege;

managing access as specified by the local security policy via the application guard located at the client to securable components wherein managing access includes comparing the subject, object and privilege to the subset of rules of the local security policy.

64. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 63 including wherein the securable components include a function within the application as specified by the security policy.

65. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 63 including a procedure within the application as specified by the security policy.

66. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 63 including a data structure within the application as specified by the security policy.

67. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 63 including a database object referenced by the application as specified by the security policy.

68. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 63 including a file system object referenced by the application as specified by the security policy.

69-71. (Previously Canceled).

72. (Currently Amended) A method for maintaining security in a distributed computing environment, comprising the steps of:

receiving a global security policy that includes a plurality of rules for regulating access to securable components in the system, the securable components including at least one application;

providing a policy manager located on a server to create a local security policy including a plurality of rules customized to a client wherein creating the local security policy includes customizing the local security policy by selecting a subset of rules from the global security policy that is applicable to an application guard located on the client;

distributing the local security policy to the client; and

providing an application guard located at the client to manage access to securable components at a client level as specified by the local security policy;

receiving an authorization request by the application guard, said authorization request including a subject, an object and a privilege; and

controlling access to the securable components by matching the subject, object and privilege to the subset of the rules by the application guard.

73. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 72 including wherein the securable components include a function within the application as specified by the security policy.

74. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 72 including a procedure within the application as specified by the security policy.

75. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 72 including a data structure within the application as specified by the security policy.

76. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 72 including a database object referenced by the application as specified by the security policy.

77. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 72 including a file system object referenced by the application as specified by the security policy.

78-80. (Previously Canceled).

81. (Currently Amended) A computer readable storage medium having stored thereon a set of instructions to execute a method for maintaining security in a distributed computing environment comprising the steps of:

receiving a global security policy that includes a plurality of rules for regulating access to securable components in the system, the securable components including at least one application;

creating a local security policy via a policy manager located on a server, the local security policy including a plurality of rules customized to a client wherein creating the local security policy includes customizing the local security policy by selecting a subset of rules from the global security policy that is applicable to an application guard located on the client;

distributing the local security policy to the client; and

receiving an access request by the application guard, said access request including a subject, an object and a privilege;

matching the access request to at least one rule selected from the subset of the rules in order to manage managing access as specified by the local security policy via the application guard located at the client to securable components.

82. (Currently Amended) The computer readable storage medium of Claim 81 wherein the securable components include including a function within the application as specified by the security policy.

83. (Withdrawn) The computer readable storage medium of Claim 81 including a procedure within the application as specified by the security policy.

84. (Withdrawn) The computer readable storage medium of Claim 81 including a data structure

within the application as specified by the security policy.

85. (Withdrawn) The computer readable storage medium of Claim 81 including a database object referenced by the application as specified by the security policy.

86. (Withdrawn) The computer readable storage medium of Claim 81 including a file system object referenced by the application as specified by the security policy.

87-89. (Previously Canceled).

90. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 57, wherein the application guard further allows for additional customized code to process and evaluate authorization requests based on the additional customized code.

91. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 90, wherein the global policy specifies access privileges of a user to securable components.

92. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 72, wherein the application guard further allows for additional customized code to process and evaluate authorization requests based on the additional customized code.

93. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 92, wherein the global policy specifies access privileges of a user to securable components.

94. (Previously Presented) The computer readable storage medium of claim 81, wherein the application guard further allows for additional customized code to process and evaluate authorization requests based on the additional customized code.

95. (Previously Presented) The computer readable storage medium of claim 94, wherein the global policy specifies access privileges of a user to securable components.